

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 MCT-01 SSM-03
A-01 IO-13 OMB-01 PER-01 ORM-02 DHA-02 ACDA-07
/113 W

-----129641 290739Z /17

P R 290530Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4717
INFO SIT-REP COLLECTIVE 272
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
CINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON ENG
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER
COMSIXTHFLT
CTF SIX ZERO
CTF SIX ONE
CTF SIX TWO
CTG SIX ZERO PT TWO
FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA
FOSIF ROTA SPAIN
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3662

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS PINT MILI LE
SUBJ: LEBANESE SITUATION JULY 22-28

REF: BEIRUT 3518 (DTG 221310Z JUL 77)

1. SUMMARY. THIS WEEK, LEBANON, SYRIA, AND PLO AGREED IN
PRINCIPLE ON CEASE-FIRE IN SOUTH AND PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING
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CAIRO ACCORD. BUT LEBANESE ARMY OFFICERS WERE VERY SKEPTICAL
OF ARRANGEMENTS, AND FIGHTING CONTINUED ON DAILY BASIS IN
SOUTH. LEBANESE GENERALLY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH
EGYPTIAN MILITARY VICTORIES OVER LIBYANS. KFUR FRONT
CONDEMNED DECREE LAW ON LEBANESE UNIVERSITY. CENTRAL BANK
ASKED FOR INFORMATION ON DEBTS AND COMMERCIAL BANKS.
AN NAHAR REPORTED COMMERCIAL BANK DEPOSITS HAD INCREASED

SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE END OF FIGHTING. END SUMMARY.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF CAIRO ACCORD AND CEASE-FIRE ORDER IN SOUTH.

AT MEETING IN CHTAURA JULY 21 REPRESENTATIVES OF GOL, PLO, SYRIA, AND ARAB SECURITY FORCES AGREED ON CEASE-FIRE IN SOUTH AND FORMED TWO SUB-COMMITTEES TO DRAW UP DETAILED PROGRAM FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CAIRO ACCORD (SEE BEIRUT 3518). AT SAME TIME, PLO ORDERED ALL ITS FORCES TO STOP SHOOTING IN SOUTH. ON JULY 25, ONE SUB-COMMITTEE MET AT CHTAURA AND AGREED ON PLAN TO IMPLEMENT CAIRO ACCORD WITHIN 15 DAYS, BEGINNING JULY 30. PLAN IN PART CALLS FOR "LEGITIMATE LEBANESE FORCES AND ARAB SECURITY FORCES" TO SUPERVISE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACCORD IN SOUTH AND PROHIBITS PRESENCE OF ARMED PALESTINIANS OUTSIDE CAMPS. ALTHOUGH LOCAL PRESS IS OPTIMISTIC, LEBANESE POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERS ARE VERY SKEPTICAL THAT CHTAURA PLAN WILL BE CARRIED OUT.

3. FIGHTING CONTINUES IN SOUTH.

DESPITE CEASE-FIRE AGREED ON AT CHTAURA, SHELLING BETWEEN CHRISTIANS AND PALESTINIANS CONTINUED ON DAILY BASIS IN SOUTH, AS REJECTIONISTS ON BOTH SIDES REFUSED TO STOP FIRING. ALSO, SAIQA AND REJECTION FRONT COMMANDOS AGAIN CLASHED NORTH OF TYRE.

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4. REACTION TO EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN CONFLICT.

LEBANESE IN CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE GENERALLY REACTED WITH MILD AMUSEMENT TO FIGHTING BETWEEN EGYPT AND LIBYA AND, EXCEPT FOR EXTREME LEFTISTS, EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH EGYPTIAN MILITARY VICTORIES. DESPITE FIGHTING, LIBYAN CHARGE SHOWED UP AT EGYPTIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION ON JULY 23. LOCAL PRESS HAS REPORTED EVENTS FACTUALLY AND REFRAINED FROM RHETORIC. AN NAHAR JULY 24 COMMENTED THAT ARAB ARMS WOULD BE BETTER PUT TO USE AGAINST COMMON ENEMY THAN IN INTER-ARAB FIGHTING.

5. KFUR FRONT ON LEBANESE UNIVERSITY.

KFUR FRONT HAS ANNOUNCED ITS OPPOSITION TO JUNE 30 DECREE LAW ON LEBANESE UNIVERSITY (SEE BEIRUT 3261). KFUR FRONT SECRETARY FUAD EFRAM BUSTANI READ STATEMENT JULY 20 WHICH STRESSED THAT EACH NEW COLLEGE OR SCHOOL "MUST MAINTAIN AN AUTONOMOUS PRESIDENT, AN AUTONOMOUS ADMINISTRATION, AND AN AUTONOMOUS BUDGET." FRONT FAVORS DE FACTO PARTITION OF UNIVERSITY AND IS THUS DISPLEASED WITH DECREE, WHICH WHILE SEEMING TO ALLOW FOR SEPARATE BRANCHES IN CHRISTIAN AND

MUSLIM SECTORS, PROVIDES FOR ONE PRESIDENT AND BOARD TO
ADMINISTER ENTIRE SYSTEM.

6. DEBT CONTROVERSY CONTINUES.

BANKING CONTROL COMMISSION OF CENTRAL BANK HAS ASKED
COMMERCIAL BANKS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON DUE DEBTS WHICH
CLIENTS HAVE NOT PAYED BACK SINCE END OF FIGHTING, SO
THAT DETERMINATION OF TOTAL AMOUNT CAN BE MADE. ACCORDING
TO LOCAL NEWS DIGEST MIDDLE EAST REPORTER, BANKS INSIST ON
SETTLING THESE DEBTS "BEFORE THEY CAN EXTND ANY FURTHER
INCREASES THAT WOULD HELP IN REACTIVATING NATIONAL ECONOMY."

7. BANK DEPOSITS RISE.
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AN NAHAR REPORTED JULY 26 THAT COMMERCIAL BANK DEPOSITS
AT END OF MARCH 1977 HAD RISEN TO LL 9.9 BILLION, INCREASE
OF ABOUT LL 1.4 BILLION SINCE REOPENING OF BANKS JANUARY 17.
BY COMPARISON, AT END OF 1974 BANK DEPOSITS WERE AROUND
LL 11.2 BILLION.
PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Sent Date: 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977076/aaaaaewj.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: LEBANESE SITUATION JULY 22-28
TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, EFIN, MPOL, LE, SY, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cf39d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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22 May 2009
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